In the Specification:

Page 2, paragraph under "FIELD OF INVENTION"

The present invention relates to glass production. In particular it relates to a composition of a glass batch refined during the glass production operations.

Replace on page 2, paragraph under "BACKGROUND"

Glass production typically occurs through the production of a glass batch, which is melted and refined before the final glass production operations are performed. Refining is the heating step which, among other purposes, results in a mixed composition of reacted components and emission of gases of volatilized materials. Among the components admixed to form the glass batch composition are melting or refining aids which have value in the mixing and reaction operation in forming the glass composition, although may not add value to the glass composition itself. For example, boron is used as a melting aid in many operations. Another material is lead, which is a component of many crystal type glasses. Because of the high temperatures used in the melting and refining operations much of these components can be lost due to volatilization. Such loss [represent] requires use of an excess amount of volatile material and results in unwanted emissions and costs. Accordingly, there is a need for a method of producing glass batches with reduced volatilization.

Replace on page 3, paragraph under "SUMMARY"

The present invention has an objective of providing a method for the production of a glass composition with reduced loss of volatiles. Another objective is to provide a glass composition with increased homogeneity and purity. These and other objectives are achieved by a method for preparing a volatile-containing glass composition comprising forming a batch of glass-forming components by mixing a volatile component source, a silicate component, and other glass-forming components. The batch of glass-forming components is melted and refined to obtain a glass

composition. The refining produces a glass composition with greater homogeneity and purity. Also, less volatiles are evolved during glass operations than a glass composition having equivalent composition produced without using the silicate component of the present invention.

Replace on page 3, first paragraph under "DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS"

One embodiment of the present invention is a method for preparing a glass composition in which a batch of glass-forming components is formed by admixing a volatile component source, a silicate compound, and other glass-forming components. This glass forming composition is then melted and refined in a furnace. The resultant glass composition has a reduced variability of oxides distribution measured at the feed end of said furnace or a reduced loss of the volatile component than a glass composition having an equivalent composition produced without using the silicate compound of the present invention.

Replace first paragraph on page 4 with:

The volatile component is preferably selected from the group consisting of boron and heavy metals. Heavy metals include, for example, lead, selenium, and cobalt. Other heavy metals can be used, depending upon the glass maker's particular formulation.

Replace first full paragraph on page 5 with:

When the method of the present invention is used, the produced glass composition has a reduced variability of oxides distribution measured at the feed end of said furnace and/or a reduced loss of said volatile component than a glass composition having an equivalent composition produced without using said silicate compound of the present invention. The variability of oxide distribution obtained is favorably reduced using the present invention by at least about ten percent, more preferably fifteen percent.